

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. An isolated polynucleotide molecule encoding a PAR4 polypeptide selected from the group consisting of:

a) polynucleotide molecules comprising a nucleotide sequence as shown in SEQ ID NO: 1 from nucleotide 176 to nucleotide 1330;

b) allelic variants of (a);

c) orthologs of (a); and

d) degenerate nucleotide sequences of (a), (b) or (c).

2. An isolated polynucleotide molecule of Claim 1, wherein the polynucleotide molecule is selected from the group consisting of:

a) polynucleotide molecules comprising a nucleotide sequence as shown in SEQ ID NO: 1 from nucleotide 227 to nucleotide 1330;

b) allelic variants of (a);

c) orthologs of (a); and

d) degenerate nucleotide sequences of (a), (b) or (c).

3. An isolated polynucleotide molecule of Claim 1, wherein the polynucleotide molecule is selected from the group consisting of:

a) polynucleotide molecules comprising a nucleotide sequence as shown in SEQ ID NO: 1 from nucleotide 317 to nucleotide 1330;

b) allelic variants of (a);

c) orthologs of (a); and

d) degenerate nucleotide sequences of (a), (b) or (c).

a) polynucleotide molecules comprising a nucleotide sequence as shown in SEQ ID NO: 1 from nucleotide 317 to nucleotide 409;

5. An expression vector comprising the following operably linked elements:

- b) allelic variants of (a);
- c) orthologs of (a); and
- d) degenerate nucleotide sequences of (a), (b) or (c); and

6. A cultured cell into which has been introduced an expression vector according to Claim 5, wherein said cell expresses the polypeptide encoded by the DNA segment.

8. An isolated PAR4 polypeptide selected from the group consisting of:

- b) allelic variants of (a); and
- c) orthologs of (a),

